

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system builder operable on a customer terminal when accessing a supplier terminal through a communication network for creating a configuration of an electronics system using components provided by a supplier, comprising:

a main system selection page for listing a plurality of main systems each being expressed by an image of the main system and statements describing the main system, wherein a customer selects one of the main systems that matches the customer's requirements;

a sub-system selection page for displaying a plurality of sub-systems within the main system each being expressed by an image of the sub-system and associated statements where the image shows relationships among components in the sub-system, wherein the customer selects one of the sub-systems that matches the customer's requirements; and

a component selection page for displaying a list of recommended components appropriate for configuring the selected sub-system in which each component being accompanied by price information, model name and description of function, wherein the customer selects components configuring the sub-system that match the customer's requirements.

2. A system builder as defined in Claim 1 wherein the customer terminal accesses the supplier terminal through the communication network which is Internet to activate the system builder by interaction between the customer terminal and the supplier terminal.

3. A system builder as defined in Claim 1 wherein the component in the sub-system recommended by the system builder can be changed by the customer when a replaceable component is found in the component selection page, wherein the system builder examines validity of a combination of the components when the change in the component is made and changes other

component in the sub-system to create a right combination if the combination caused by the customer is invalid.

4. A system builder as defined in Claim 1, wherein configuration of the electronics system is determined through a hierarchical order from the main system selection page which provides a selection step for broad systems, the sub-system selection page which provides a selection step for more specific systems, to the component selection page which provides a selection step to determine specific components in the system.

5. A system builder operable on a customer terminal when accessing a supplier terminal through a communication network for creating a configuration of an automobile entertainment system using components provided by a supplier, comprising:

a main system selection page for listing a plurality of main systems each being expressed by an image of the main system and statements describing the main system, wherein a customer selects one of the main systems that matches the customer's requirements;

a sub-system selection page for displaying a plurality of sub-systems within the main system each being expressed by an image of the sub-system and associated statements where the image shows relationships among components in the sub-system, wherein the customer selects one of the sub-systems that matches the customer's requirements;

a vehicle information page for supplying information regarding customer's vehicle by the customer for determining fitment of the components in the sub-system with respect to physical conditions of the customer's vehicle;

a component selection page for displaying a list of recommended components appropriate for configuring the selected sub-system in which each component being

accompanied by price information, model name and description of function, wherein the customer selects components configuring the sub-system that match the customer's requirements.

5 6. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the customer terminal accesses the supplier terminal through the communication network which is Internet to activate the system builder by interaction between the customer terminal and the supplier terminal.

10 7. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the component in the sub-system recommended by the system builder can be changed by the customer when a replaceable component is found in the component selection page, wherein the system builder examines validity of a combination of the components
15 based on the vehicle information when the change in the component is made and changes other component in the sub-system to create a right combination if the combination caused by the customer is invalid with respect to the customer's vehicle or compatibility with other components.

20 8. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 further comprising an overall sub-system page which shows images of all of sub-systems available in the selected main system wherein the sub-system selection page is displayed on the customer terminal when specifying one of the images in the
25 overall sub-system page.

9. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 further comprising a check out page for confirming final selection of the sub-system and the selected components that compose the selected sub-system.

30 10. A system builder as defined in Claim 5, wherein configuration of the automobile entertainment system is determined through a hierarchical order from the main system selection page which provides a selection step for broad systems, the sub-system selection page which provides a
35 selection step for more specific systems, to the component

selection page which provides a selection step to determine specific components in the system.

11. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the component selection page shows a price of each component listed and a total price of the sub-system configured by the selected components.

12. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the vehicle information of the customer's vehicle is used for determining a dashboard size for head units in the customer's vehicle.

13. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the vehicle information of the customer's vehicle is used for determining opening sizes for speakers in the customer's vehicle.

14. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the statements for each of the main system are expressed in such a way to assess the requirements by the customer for establishing the automobile entertainment system.

15. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the recommended components listed in the component selection page are displayed in an order determined by the supplier based on one or more factors including prices, popularity, profitability, and amounts of stocks of the components.

16. A system builder as defined in Claim 5 wherein the supplier terminal and the customer terminal are either of workstations and personal computers.

17. A method of building an automobile entertainment system by a customer using components provided by a supplier, comprising the following steps of:

accessing a supplier terminal by a customer terminal through a communication network for activating a user graphic interface on the customer terminal;

listing a plurality of main systems each being expressed by an image of the main system and statements describing the main system;

selecting one of the main systems that matches customer's requirements;

5 displaying a plurality of sub-systems within the main system each being expressed by an image of the sub-system and associated statements where the image shows relationships among components in the sub-system;

selecting one of the sub-systems that matches the customer's requirements;

10 supplying information regarding customer's vehicle for determining fitment of the components with respect to physical conditions of the customer's vehicle;

15 displaying a list of recommended components appropriate for configuring the selected sub-system in which each component being accompanied by price information and model name; and

selecting components configuring the sub-system that match the customer's requirement.

18. A method of building an automobile entertainment system as defined in Claim 17, further comprising a step of
20 confirming final selection of the sub-system and the selected components that compose the selected sub-system.